

From the Board Room

ACTIVITIES OF THE NC BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAY 2015

The State Board of Education is comprised of the State Treasurer, the Lieutenant Governor and 11 citizens appointed by the Governor. This newsletter highlights the Board's activities on behalf of the 1.5 million public school children in our state and the more than 100,000 educators who provide services to children. View all State Board of Education member and advisor information online at <https://eboard.eboardsolutions.com/AboutUs/AboutUs.aspx?S=10399&TID=1>.

To access current and archived versions of From the Boardroom, visit <http://stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/> and select the "SBE Newsletter" tab.

IS YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT GLOBAL READY?

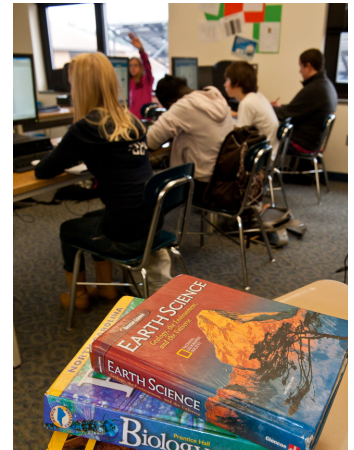
The State Board of Education gave final approval to a new recognition for local school districts that exhibit a strong focus on global education. The new Global-Ready District Designation will be given to districts that provide a process and incentives that address

- K-12 world language opportunities for all students;
- pathways for teachers, leaders and administrators to achieve State Board of Education global badging designations in place for individuals;
- career-ready employer requirements;
- global school partnerships; and
- local school board commitment demonstrated through formal resolutions and plans for global education.

The goal of these incentives is to improve the state's effectiveness in producing high school graduates who are prepared to live, work and contribute in an interconnected world. The district designation is coordinated with a teacher global education badging process and global education endorsements that high school graduates can earn for their diploma. To learn more about the global education initiative, please visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/globaled/>.

NEW SCIENCE TEXTBOOKS ADOPTED

New science books (paper or digital versions) now are available for local school districts to purchase. The State Board of Education this month adopted a new list of 132 science books that have been reviewed by teachers and other educators and found to be aligned to North Carolina's Science Standard Course of Study. Local districts select textbooks from the adopted list and order those through the NCDPI Textbook Warehouse. (School districts also have discretion to order materials "off-list" as well.) State Board of Education members this year have requested increases to the current textbook funding allotment of approximately \$15 per student to better facilitate the provision of up-to-date textbooks.



NEW CHARTER SCHOOLS CONSIDERED FOR FALL 2016 OPENING

Eighteen new charter schools could receive final approval in June to begin their planning year and open in fall 2016 for students. This list of new charter applicants was reviewed this month and are under consideration for approval in June. This new list would bring the total number of charter schools to approximately 175 schools. Charter schools are spread across North Carolina, and two virtual charter schools are set to begin serving students in all counties in the 2015-16 school year. Even with these new schools opening, however, there are still 44 counties with no brick-and-mortar charter schools operating.

Charter Schools by County, 2014-15

